

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-9 (canceled).

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): A charging cradle for charging mobile communication terminals, comprising:

a housing, said housing comprising a guide shaft and contact springs, said contact springs being coupled on one end to spring tongues and at the other end to contact points;

a connector, comprising large-surface contact areas, wherein said connector is inserted into said guide shaft to provide contact between the large-surface contact areas and ~~another end~~ said spring tongues of the said contact springs; and

an opening in said housing, wherein said opening provides access for mating points on a mobile terminal to couple to said ~~contact areas~~ contact points of said contact springs.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): A charging cradle in accordance with claim 10, wherein ~~the~~ said housing further comprises position holders formed within ~~the~~ said housing upon which said contact springs are mounted.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): A charging cradle in accordance with claim 10, further comprising a power supply component, provided within ~~said~~ a single housing and coupled to said connector for providing power.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): A charging cradle in accordance with claim 12, wherein ~~the~~ said power supply component is coupled to an AC power ~~source~~ plug.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): A charging cradle in accordance with claim 10, wherein ~~the~~ said ~~contact areas are~~ connector is substantially flat and said large-surface contact areas are arranged on a forward area of the said connector.

REMARKS

Upon entry of this amendment, claims 10-14 are amended, leaving claims 10-14 pending with claim 10 being independent.

Claims 10-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Tomura et al, (Tomura), US Patent 5,256,955.

Amended independent claim 10 now recites a charging cradle for charging mobile communication terminals, including a housing with a guide shaft and contact springs. The contact springs are coupled on one end to spring tongues and at the other end to contact points. A connector that has large-surface contact areas wherein the connector is inserted into the guide shaft to provide contact between the large-surface contact areas and the spring tongues of the contact springs. An opening in the housing, wherein the opening provides access for mating points on a mobile terminal to couple to said contact points of said contact springs.

Tomura discloses a charger 10 having charging terminals 36. The Examiner suggests that reference numerals 19 and 80 indicate a guide shaft. However, Tomura fails to disclose or teach large surface contact areas that are inserted into the guide shaft to provide contact between the large surface contact areas and the spring tongues of the contact springs. Assuming that charging terminals 36 in Tomura are contact springs, they are not situated to allow contact with large surface contact areas in the guide shaft. In fact, according to Tomura, the relocation of the battery pack holder 76 is guided by a pair of guide rails 80 provided on the lower case 14. That is, 80 is not a guide shaft that accepts a connector that has large-surface contact areas, but rather an area for a battery pack holder.

Therefore, Applicant submits that independent claim 10 and its dependent claims are allowable over the cited prior art. Moreover the dependent claims further distance themselves from the cited prior art. For example, claim 14 recites that the connector is substantially flat and the large-surface contact areas are arranged on a forward area of the connector.

Tomura discloses a connecting plug 5 (Figure 1) that is pin-like and not flat with contact surfaces extending in the surface as it is the case with respect to the subject matter of the application. The connecting plug disclosed in Tomura et al. teaches away from a connecting plug as it is recited in the claims and does not render the claimed connecting plug obvious.